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ETHIOPIA

MUGABE INTERVIEWED BEFORE LEAVING ADDIS ABABA

LD170956Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1740 GMT 16 May 78 LD/EA

["Africa in Focus" Program]

[Excerpt] Today the battle aims in Zimbabwe are much clearer than before. Whereas Sithole, Muzorewa and Chirau have decided to form a puppet government with the racists, Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo of the Patriotic Front are leading the armed struggle. Robert Mugabe of ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union] visited Ethiopia last week, leaving yesterday. Before he left, he spoke to Voice of Revolutionary Ethiopia reporter about the latest situation in his country. He first, however, introduced his reasons for coming here. [begin recording]

[Mugabe] I came to Ethiopia in response accorded to the call [words indistinct] for the consolidation of our efforts intensifying armed struggle. It is well known that the situation in our country requires that armed struggle be intensified with immediate effect. And so we came to Ethiopia to discuss with authorities here how best Ethiopia could assist us in waging not just the military struggle but also the diplomatic and political struggle. And I have had discussions first with the foreign minister, which were very fruitful discussions indeed, and then my discussions with the chairman of the Military Council, and the discussions were very fruitful. Ethiopia has promised to give us as much support as she can afford at the present time, and it is well known that Ethiopia offered last year at the Libreville summit conference of the OAU to train as many as 5,000 fighters for the liberation movements in southern Africa. And of course we hope this program will take effect as soon as possible. This is one of the things we discussed.

Then I did brief the chairman on the events in Zimbabwe just now, the situation as it stands. And I was very happy to be promised as much as possible the type of help that I have come to raise here. Ethiopia will continue as before, we were told, to fight our diplomatic and political struggle. At the OAU, at the UN there will continue to be the consistent line adopted by Ethiopia that there should be immediate decolonization of our country. We are very happy with our discussions here.

[Question] Well, for instance in terms of the military training and so on and the more of the other discussions that you had, did you have any timetables set out yet, or are they still to be discussed later?

[Answer] Well, quite a number of matters are still to be discussed later. We will finalize these matters, but I think it is just a question of crossing the T's and dotting the I's.

[Question] Now the news that is coming from Salisbury these days shows disintegration to an extent within the so-called internal government, with certain members of that government deciding not to participate in it, or to suspend participation in it, not to (?meet) and so on. Does this show a particular weakness at this stage (?or) do you think these people can come together again in the face of the concerted armed struggle being waged by the Patriotic Front?

[Answer] One does not know what desperate people will do. Recently they announced that they had gone into agreement and which they believed was going to lead to independence. But we defeated that, we told the whole world, we told the OAU at Tripoli and then we followed that by addressing the Security Council, the UN.

We told the international community that the deal, apart from its illegal character, did not amount to transfer of power from the colonial regime to the people of Zimbabwe, which is what we are fighting for, and that [word indistinct] deal was indeed intended to entrench the position of the settler minority regime, which [word indistinct] (?approved) it is intended to do.

Now there is dissension in the ranks of the parties--well, we knew these parties were never committed really to the principle of genuine independence. We knew that all they wanted was to secure positions for themselves. But against this background has been the armed struggle, and the people of Zimbabwe are completely opposed to the deal. They stand (?four square) behind our struggle, and unless the broad masses of the country can be rallied behind the deal, there is no way that deal can survive, and Muzorewa had realized this. It is not true that he did not know that the deal did not allow for the Africanization of the institutions--he knew that. But now, perhaps he is trying to find a way out, because of the opposition he is facing from the African people.

But we have given them a chance to retract from their commitment. If they do, well and good, but they must be more positive than that. They must rally behind the armed struggle, support the efforts which are existing in order to liquidate the regime. If they do, well, then of course the area of contradictions between ourselves and themselves will have diminished to a very great extent.

[Question] Now the parties to the deal, apart from Smith, are Chirau, Sithole and Muzorewa and these three individuals have been known by yourselves and others in the armed struggle for a long time. Now, as you indicate, Muzorewa seems to be backing out. Do you see these three parties to this agreement in the same level, or do you feel that there are some that maybe have a chance, a better chance of understanding the aspirations of the Zimbabwe people, than others?

[Answer] I think apart from Chirau, Sithole and Muzorewa are capable of understanding the aspirations of the masses of Zimbabwe. They are all very capable men, but they happen to be opportunists. They are unprincipled and this is what distinguishes them from us. We follow the line of principled behavior. We are not just waging struggle in vacuum. We are being guided by definite principles and definite objectives [passage indistinct]. We would like to see the liquidation of the colonial regime, the liquidation of the colonial system and the creation of democratic conditions in which our own ideas can then take effect, and (?thus) the social transformation of our country can be embarked upon.

These are things that we have talked about, and Muzorewa and Sithole have worked with us in the past. They know these objectives, they know these principles. But what they have tried to do is to secure themselves in positions out of fear that a victory by the people will throw them into oblivion. And so it cannot be doubted that Muzorewa and Sithole are capable of understanding the aspirations of the people. But then they place their own interests before the interests of the broad masses. This is where the difference between themselves and ourselves exist.

[Question] To come to the question of what they are talking about in terms of elections and so on, they seem to be basing their ideas on trying to achieve legitimacy by some time before the end of this year, holding some form of elections somewhere in Zimbabwe. Recent articles, I believe, the latest issue of AFRICA magazine as well, doubt the possibility of holding elections in a country where armed struggle is taking place such as is now. Do you think that this will ever begin (?opposition) to hold elections, considering the security situation in the country and considering the armed struggle that is being carried out?

[Answer] It is an impossible thing to hold elections as the situation stands at the present moment. (?As) our forces are operating in practically every district in the country, I cannot see those elections being held at all.

If they are held, then there will be some [word indistinct] or some situation will be created which will be (?revealed) to the world as amounting to democratic elections. But in actual fact, I cannot see any elections being held in the rural areas of the country and not even in the urban areas. And so any claim that the situation is conducive to the holding of elections is utter [word indistinct]. And even if elections were to be held, the majority of the people would not cast (?their) vote [words indistinct]. And this, of course, is one reason why people like Muzorewa are now [words indistinct]. They realize that the deal is not going to [words indistinct]. The people are completely opposed to what [words indistinct].

STATEMENT ISSUED ON KIDNAPED FRENCHMAN'S RELEASE

LD171314Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry has said that the French national held hostage by Afar youths who say they are part of UNI [National Independence Union], the Djibouti political party, was handed over to the French Embassy in Addis Ababa yesterday. The spokesman added that Mr Boucault has stated that he was not harmed during his 9 days of captivity. The spokesman said that the Ethiopian Government spared no efforts to insure that Mr Boucault was not harmed. He said that the kidnapers had demanded democratic rights in Djibouti, the release of political prisoners, the insurance of equality among the nationalities and workers in Djibouti and the immediate setting up of a group drawn from all parties to draft a new Djibouti constitution.

The spokesman said that it is the Ethiopian Government's belief that if these demands are met, as they should be, the political chaos that has existed in Djibouti since December will cease. The Ethiopian Government has made great diplomatic efforts to insure Mr Boucault's safe release in order to give the Government of Djibouti time calmly to consider these demands and work out a just solution.

The spokesman went on to say that even though the colonialist relations between France and Djibouti ceased to exist after independence, France's special ties with Djibouti help it to play an important role. The spokesman therefore reminded the French Government that it has a responsibility to try to find a correct solution to the demands of the Afar youths and to insure that the country enjoys peace. The French Government, mindful of its responsibilities, should also try to insure that the situation does not deteriorate.

Speaking on behalf of his government at the handing-over ceremony, (Ferde Nolle), French charge d'affaires, thanked the Government of socialist Ethiopia for its efforts on behalf of the French national. The charge d'affairs said that the French Government will continue advising the Djibouti Government and helping it to solve the political problems it is facing. He said that he will again forward the demands made by the UNI to his government.

ETHIOPIAN-SUDANESE MEDIATION COMMITTEE MEETING POSTPONED

LD171915Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The meeting of the Ethiopian-Sudanese mediation committee set up by the OAU, which was scheduled to begin tomorrow in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, has been postponed at Sudan's request.

This was revealed after a meeting between Mr William Eteki Mboumoua, OAU secretary general, and Dr Col Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, the Ethiopian foreign minister.

Replying to a reporter's question, Eteki expressed confidence that the committee will meet in due course, adding that he has had talks with the Sudanese Government on this matter.

The secretary general declined to say why Sudan has decided to postpone the meeting.

The Ethiopian Government learned of the postponement of the meeting at a time when the high-level Ethiopian delegation was about to leave for Nairobi. According to diplomatic channels, because the postponement was not announced until the last moment, members of the committee have either arrived in Kenya, or are on their way to Kenya. Ethiopia and Sudan had agreed to participate in this meeting, which was scheduled to be held from 18 to 20 May 1978 in Kenya, having so informed the Sierra Leone foreign minister, who is the chairman of the committee.

However, now that the Sudanese Government has asked the Sierra Leone foreign minister to postpone the meeting, the minister has instructed the OAU office to make the decision known to the other members of the committee.

It will be recalled that during its meeting in Freetown, Sierra Leone, in January, the mediation committee suggested that it should arrange a meeting of the Ethiopian-Sudanese joint ministerial committee to find solutions for the major disputes between the two countries.

The committee did what it could to persuade the Ethiopian and Sudanese governments to refrain from doing anything which might exacerbate their differences, and to take steps to create a favorable atmosphere of understanding and cooperation between the two countries. Accordingly, the committee made considerable efforts toward bringing about the restoration of air links between the two countries and ending their mutually hostile propaganda.

Asked about what socialist Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] has done in response to the committee's proposals, an official of the Foreign Ministry replied that everything possible has been done to implement the proposals, adding that this has been fully understood by both the committee and the OAU.

ADDIS ABABA MAYOR MEETS WITH CUBAN DELEGATION

FL171018Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 17 May 78 FL

[Text] PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Central Committee member Raul Curbelo Morales and the Cuban agricultural-livestock sector delegation he heads have met with Comrade Abebe, mayor of Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital. The Cuban delegation, which has been making a working visit to Ethiopia since last week, was briefed on the structure and functions of the kebele urban organizations. Ethiopian Foreign Minister Feleke Gedle-Giorgis accompanied the visitors at the meeting held in Addis Ababa.

MENGISTU PROMISES HELP FOR WAR WOUNDED

LD151720Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 15 May 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and the Ministerial Council, has stated that a war supported by the people, sacrifice made for the people and life sacrificed for the people are always as victorious as they are honorable and eternal. The comrade chairman pointed this out last Saturday in a speech to regular, militia and veteran forces after visiting the military base in Dagahabur and Auwareh.

The proletarian party which will be based on the mass organizations will be built with the revolutionary armed forces, the vanguard of socialism, who have shed their blood and sweat, with democracy and the oppressed Ethiopian people, as its pillar.

Besides the war, the economic development of the country is advancing relative to our strength, owing to the support of the socialist countries, the efforts to expand and strengthen the nationalized productive industries so as to enable them to improve the quality and to increase the quantity of the production to ease the problems of the broad masses, are showing results day by day.

The future of socialist Ethiopia, and the hopes of today's vanguard revolutionary fighting forces can be seen like a shining sun. It is only a question of time before you will be able to grasp and see this. In the struggle our forces are waging against the enemy, they will not be rejected by society as handicapped, falling on hard times when they suffer accidents or war injuries, as was their log in the old society. They will be proud of the work they have done and what they had to face, and will be examples for the coming generations.

Ethiopia will look after them with the highest regard, and to show this in concrete form, full preparations are being made in the military base near Debre Zeit, which is known as the hero's fortress. There you will all see in the future that the heroes can be treated for injuries on their return from the battlefields, that they can get food to keep up their health and spirits, that they can relax and acquire various skills which will enable them to support themselves and society so that they do not become a burden on their country, and to that they can participate in production.

UNIVERSITY'S DECLINE BLAMED ON RESIDUE OF U.S. INFLUENCE

LD172216Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0515 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Commentary by unnamed second year Addis Ababa University student]

[Excerpts] There is no doubt that educating, training and influencing students through teachers we send from our country is more productive than sending soldiers to colonize a country. This was the advice given to President Roosevelt by a certain official of an American university and it has been duly translated into practice in many Third World countries. Everyone knows that Ethiopia was one of those countries.

Before 1952, the British Government had been given access to numerous fields of activity within the governmental bodies of Haile Selassie, but from 1952 onward the United States began to take over all of Britain's fields of activity.

But what is the situation like today? What changes have the past 4 years seen? Assuredly the Americans have had to pack their bags and were sacked by the university, but the disease they spread over the past 20 years survives.

They [the students] pass their exams not because they have deep knowledge, but because they memorize. Their hope is to take up (?jobs) in our city by means of using underhanded methods. What matters in the task of getting hold of a job is the piece of paper, not the ability of the individual who possesses it.

The university ran riot with the slogan let democracy reign. During the search and Red terror campaign, the campus was left out. Instead, white terror was unleased. And now narrow nationalists are inflicting heavy damage on the property of the university. Who was it tore the matresses into shreds? The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP] is among those responsible, but the EPRP cannot be viewed separately from the Eritrean secessionists. The two support each other in their actions, however, and they are well-entrenched in the university.

The main reason why agitation and indoctrination have not yet been conducted in the university campus is because there was hope that the students, as well as the teachers, would stand by the broad masses after reading books and analyzing them.

Close examination shows that the dangerous disease left by the Americans is getting worse, and unless a cure is found soon it will infect others. Therefore, measures should be taken immediately. We will expose the EPRP and the Eritrean secessionist groups in the university by listing all their names. However, let them expose themselves first. We will expose the students and teachers who are heavily U.S. oriented. We will expose those who have damaged university property. We will expose negligent teachers. We will expose those who undermine Marxist-Leninist organizations and those who obstruct political agitation just as soon as we have a full list of their names.

ADDIS ZEMEN DISCUSSES PROBLEM OF NATIONALITIES

LD1720507 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1726 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Today's editorial of the Amharic daily, ADDIS ZEMEN, writes on the need to establish an institute of nationalities.

Ethiopia, ZEMEN begins, is a land of many nationalities and the nationalities question is one that is raised by and has to be addressed to by revolutionaries in the country. Noting that the question of nationalities has led to significant confusion, ZEMEN reduces the conflicting interpretations to this question: Will the rights of nationalities, their growth and development be respected by secession or by unity? At this point, the paper explains that despite the protestations of many persons to the effect that they have struggled for the rights of nationalities, only a few have really fought for the genuine liberation of the nationalities. In Ethiopia, ZEMEN continues, genuine progressives have struggled for acceptance of the clear Marxist-Leninist line on this question, while pseudorevolutionaries have spread anti-Marxist propaganda, incredibly spiced by progressive language.

Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party, for instance, writes ZEMEN, tried all it could to support secession. It even went to the extent of supporting Siad Barre's aggression. Right roaders, the paper continues, believe that secersion was an acceptable framework by which nationalities seize their rights, but the Ethiopian working class, writes ZEMEN, which can clearly differentiate between genuine and pseudoprogressives, has come out with a clear-cut stand on the question of nationalities.

The recent gathering of representatives of nine industrial unions is an example chosen by the Amharic daily. At this gathering the representatives declared that, after a Marxist study of the problem and the options open to the Ethiopian reality today, they supported regional autonomy as the framework for the realization of nationality rights in Ethiopia. For this, they called for the establishment of institute of nationalities.

In conclusion, ADDIS ZEMEN lets its readers acknowlegde that the workers have made this stand clear and it is up to those who follow the workers ideology and who believe in proletarian power, to aline their positions with those of the working class.

BAGHDAD VOICE OF MASSES REPORTS ERITREA FIGHTING

JN171307Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] Asmara--Violent fighting continued for the third successive day between the Eritrean revolutionaries and the invading Ethiopian forces. The (?Addi Toquala) area, west of the Eritrean capital of Asmara, has been the scene of the most violent fighting.

A spokesman for the revolutionaries has stated that the Ethiopian Air Force is continuing its raids against the liberated Eritrean towns and villages. He said that the revolutionaries have repulsed the attacks of the aggressive forces, inflicting heavy losses in lives and material.

Mengistu Mariam, leader of the ruling regime in Ethiopia, has threatened to launch a large-scale attack to overrun Eritrea. He has also threatened to carry the war to Somalia if that country continues to support the Western Somalia revolutionaries.

DAMASCUS CITES ERITREAN AGENCY ON FIGHTING

JN17219Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] Eritrea--The ferocious fighting being waged by the Eritrean revolutionaries against the Ethiopian occupation forces is still raging late tonight. The Eritrean news agency says that the battles west of Asmara have entered the (?6th) day. Meanwhile the revolutionaries are confronting the Ethiopian forces in northern and southern [name indistinct]. The agency further says that the Ethiopian forces, although they have reinforcements, have failed to advance. Ethiopian losses have increased notably.

The Eritrean agency points out that the revolutionaries today [words indistinct] a number of the enemy's heavy artillery which had shelled populated villages surrounding Asmar.

The revolutionaries' air defenses prevented the Ethiopian planes, continuing their raids today, from hitting their targets.

The Eritrean masses in all towns staged massive demonstrations (?in protest) against the Ethiopian campaign to exterminate the Eritrean people. They called for foiling this colonialist plan.

Warships Shell Coastal Cities

JN172138Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] Eritrea--Sources of the Eritrean revolution said that planes of the Ethiopian military regime today shelled villages near the Eritrean capital of Asmara. These sources further said that Ethiopian warships in the Red Sea shelled coastal cities.

News agencies quoted Eritrean revolutionaries as saying that about 20,000 Ethiopian soldiers, backed by planes, tanks and artillery, have broken through the siege imposed by the revolutionaries on Asmara.

KENYA

OFFICIAL WARNS ALIENS OF POSSIBLE DENIAL OF CITIZENSHIP

LD171928Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Aliens who might have crossed into Kenya in anticipation of being registered as Kenya citizens would find their hopes shattered. This warning was given by the Trans-Nzoia district commissioner, Mr Makanga, who added that [a] through security [check] would be done before one was registered.

The district commissioner said: Because Trans-Nzoia shares a common border with Uganda, not every alien will be registered as a Kenyan. He revealed that village level committees have been instituted for identification purposes and appealed for public assistance in making the exercise a success. The district commissioner appealed to all Trans-Nzoia residents to avail themselves for registration.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO: ERITREAN FRONT LEADERS CONDEMN OFFENSIVE

LD172036Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The barbarous offensive launched by the Mengistu regime and the unholy alliance of Russia, Cuba, East Germany and South Yemen against Eritrea cannot stop the struggle of the Eritrean people for their unity and independence, said the Honorable Umar Abdullah, a member of the Central Committee of the ELF [Eritrean Liberation Front]. The Honorable Abdullah Muhammad, who this morning held a press conference in the Eritrean Liberation Front headquarters in Mogadiscio, added that the Eritrean people, who have been struggling for their independence for 17 years and have encountered numerous difficulties, now believe that they will achieve their independence no matter how long it takes them. The Honorable Umar Abdullah said he has complete confidence that the gallant Eritreans will crush the enemies who wish to take over Eritrea to serve their strategic interests. He called on the liberation fronts to unite and repulse the Abyssinian colonialists, the Russians and their puppets.

The Honorable Umar Abdullah called on the UN organization, the OAU, the Arab League, all international organizations and peace-loving people to find a solution to the threat in Eritrea, which will not be confined to that area but will spread to (?other parts) of Africa and Arabia.

Hamud Muhammad Adan, who is the head of the office of the liberation front, (?PLF), in Mogadiscio, also condemned the unholy alliance of the new Abyssinian imperialism: Russia, Cuba, East Germany and South Yemen, who have decided to annihilate the Eritrean people, who are struggling to achieve unity and independence. The Honorable Hamud made it clear that this unholy alliance has joined forces to annihilate the people of Eritrea.

This is in total contradiction to their professed policy of helping all people who are struggling for their independence. They have now embarked upon suppressing those who are fighting to gain the right to determine their destiny. The Honorable Hamud said Mengistu's threats against the Somali Democratic Republic will change nothing in its support for the just struggle of the liberation fronts of Eritrea, Western Somalia and Abo to attain this independence.

The press conference was also addressed by the Honorable Muhammad Nur Ahmad, representative of the ELF, who said that the unholy alliance troops have launched attacks on areas that had been liberated at the cost of Eritrean lives. The Honorable Muhammad Nur said the enemy units of the allied forces are inhumanly killing old people, women and children and that is what the peace-loving people of the world must condemn, this barbarity which is endangering world peace.

WSLF REPORTS HEAVY CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON ENEMY

LD1711547 Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The freedom fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF], who are struggling to liberate their land from the intransigent colonialists of Addis Ababa, killed 63 soldiers of the unholy alliance at a place between Gode and Kelafo in southern Hararge on 11 May.

A report published in DANAB, the daily news bulletin of the WSLF, said a military vehicle had been destroyed in the same place. The freedom fighters had inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy at another location and burned enemy supplies to ashes.

The report says the freedom fighters returned to base safely after their victory.

ITALIAN FOREIGN UNDER SECRETARY ENDS VISIT

AU1514007 Rome ANSA in English 0850 GMT 15 May 78 AU

[Text] Mogadiscio, May 15 (ANSA)--Italian Foreign Undersecretary Franco Foschi wound up a several day visit to Somalia this weekend. Prior to his departure from Mogadiscio Sunday he met with Somali head of state Mohammed Siad Barre. During the cordial conversation the two men discussed development prospects and bilateral ties.

Foschi also saw to the delivery of 35 bales of medicine sent here by the Italian Government as part of humanitarian aid to the Somali people who have suffered from the recent conflict in the Horn of Africa.

UGANDA

AMIN CALLS FOR LIBYAN, SUDANESE HELP ON TANZANIA BORDER

LD1715317 Kampala Domestic Service in Swahili 1400 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Life-President Amin has called on President Numayri of the Sudan and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of Libya to intervene over the deteriorating situation which continues to worsen on the border between Uganda and Tanzania.

The president said that Tanzanian troops are being massed on the border, and especially at Kikagati, where Uganda was attacked from the Tanzanian side in 1972. This, he said, was the reason for his decision to request that the two leaders intervene and to remind President Nyerere of his call for 1978 to be a year of peace, love and reconciliation. The president hoped that if the two leaders intervened, the situation would be arrested before it worsens.

Copies of the message were also sent to President El-Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon, who is the current chairman of the OAU, and to the OAU secretary general.

AMIN ORDERS GOVERNMENT WORKERS TO SURRENDER WEAPONS

TA161726Y Paris AFP in English 1720 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[Text] Nairobi May 16 (AFP)--Ugandan President Idi Amin has ordered all members of his government to surrender all weapons in their possession immediately to army headquarters, Kampala Radio reported today in a broadcast monitored here.

No explanation was given for the order.

Reports from the Ugandan capital indicated that President Amin's decision had led to a certain amount of tension and that several ministers did not go to their offices today.

Military police patrols were numerous and frequent in Kampala today, although a uniformed police presence in the city is normally rare, the reports said.

President Amin's order followed a series of changes within the government and in key police and army posts in the past three weeks. Observers interpreted the changes as an indication of President Amin's determination to reaffirm his leadership, which was threatened.

KAMPALA EXPLAINS RECENT CABINET RESHUFFLE

LD131942Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 13 May 78 LD/EA

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] The reorganization which President Amin has been making in the government recently is a welcome move to all the people who have the welfare of this country at heart. (?The aim is to put) real responsible and more efficient people in different positions in various fields so as to improve the administration of the country and the management of production units so as to hasten the development of the country. This is a normal thing for any head of state who cares for his country's development to do, and Life President Amin, who has already done so much for the development of his country and for the well-being of his people, could not now just sit down and watch some inefficient people mismanage things and retard the development of the country.

Unfortunately, the imperialist press has misunderstood Dr Amin's move and called it a cabinet reshuffle aimed at avoiding the plot to overthrow him. One now wonders whether President Amin has been the first ever head of government to reshuffle his government and reorganize the administration of his country.

The imperialists seem to think that a government should always end with the very people it started with an, therefore, forget that some members of a government become old and, therefore, inefficient and need to be replaced.

Dr Amin's sincerity and devotion to the development of his country and the well-being of Ugandans is [words indistinct]. He chooses who he puts where in government. He appoints his aides regardless of one's tribe and religion, but depending on one's capbility to do that job.

The recent example is the promotion of a 19-year-old woman police constable to the rank of corporal for her bravery and the way she displayed her tactics in combatting kondos [bands of outlaws]. It will be recalled that one of the 18 points which led to the military takeover was the increase in armed robbery in the country during the political government. [sentence as heard] It is not now surprising at all to see Dr Amin promote such a lady who shows she combats kondos.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU NAMES MILITARY COMMANDER FOR SHABA

LD171414Y Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Here is our colleague (Kamango Chita) at Mont Ngaliema:

Here is an order which I have just read--order No 78/259 of 17 May 1978--on the appointment and administrative assignment of a general officer to the command of the first military region of Shaba:

The president-founder of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of the republic, in accordance with the constitution, especially Article 40; in accordance with law No 77/01-12 of 1 July 1977 on the general organization of defense and the Zairian Armed Forces, especially Article 25; in accordance with law No 78/008 of 20 January 1978 on the territorial and administrative organization of the republic, especially Articles 6 to 15; and taking into consideration the fact that the situation that now prevails in the Shaba region, caused by a band of miscreants, is of a nature to affect the vital interests of the state; taking into consideration the fact that it would be advisable to coordinate the conduct of military operations with the civil defense measures taken to assure order, security and the operation of public services in this part of the republic; and in view of the urgency, orders:

Article 1. Lt Gen Singa Boyenge Mosambay is appointed commander of the first military region.

Article 2. Throughout the military operations, the commander of the military region alone will exercise the full powers invested in the regional commissioner.

Article 3. This order comes into force as of the date of its signing.

Kinshasa, 17 May 1978

Signed: Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngwenza Wa Zabanga, general of the army corps

Kinshasa Describes Mobutu Support

LD171438Y Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Soviet and Cuban inspired pressure on southeast [as heard] Shaba has aroused feelings of general condemnation and a burst of national solidarity throughout the republic. From all corners of Zaire the militants are expressing their unceasing attachment to Guide Mobutu Sese Seko and their unbreakable support for the cause of the revolution.

The new test of [word indistinct] which has been imposed upon us, far from changing our revolutionary conviction, only reinforces the unity of our people and their determination to continue--whatever happens and whatever the cost--with the struggle for the comprehensive liberation of Zairian men and women.

Since last weekend, in fact, there have been innumerable demonstrations of support for the guide, for our armed forces and for the revolution. Following motions of support from the legislative council, the party Executive Secretariat, the youth wing of the Popular Movement for the Revolution [MPR] and many other national bodies, the Kinshasa militants are organizing a great march today in support of the father of the nation Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko under the aegis of the Kinshasa MPR regional committee. Similar marches are also expected today throughout Shaba region. All these revolutionary demonstrations are aimed solely at showing all our detractors that in the face of danger the Zairian people are mobilized as one man behind Guide Mobutu Sese Seko. The new attack by the forces of evil in southeast Shaba concerns all of us. It is the concern of all militants of the MPR. We are all mobilized behind the Zairian Armed Forces under the command of the guide of the authentic Zairian revolution, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, to drive out the enemy.

Victory is certain because the cause is just.

Belgians, Italian Killed

LD170954Y Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0500 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] According to reports from the operations command stationed in Kolwezi, it was confirmed in Kinshasa last night that the rebels who took over 100 foreigners as hostages--chiefly Americans, Belgians, Frenchman and Britons--during the attack on Kolwezi, in a cowardly manner killed four Europeans yesterday morning. They were three Belgians and one Italian. The Belgians were Mr (Blancard), head of the lead and [word indistinct] workshops, and his wife; and Mr (Garpinier), a chief fitter. The Italian was Mr (Dianola), an employee. All were expatriate members of the staff of Gecamines.

In this connection, it has been noted that Mrs (Blancard) died bravely, firmly resisting the rebels' attempt at the forcible removal of her husband. The rebels wanted him to fix their water supply, which they had sabotaged, along with the electricity, during the attack on Kolwezi. Because of her intransigent attitude, she was shot at pointblank range, together with her husband. The two other [word indistinct], Mr (Garpinier) and Mr (Dianola), were killed in the same way. As we have seen, innocent blood has once again been shed pointlessly. Three Belgians and the Italian came to Zaire to bring us their knowledge and expertise for the development of our country. The rebels (?came), armed by the Russians and Cubans, and killed them. This crime was committed in cold blood against defenseless people who took no part in the conflict. It makes the behavior of these men, whom we already knew to be without faith or law, all the more odious.

Today they have exhibited for all to see their desire to crudely flout the principles of human rights, which certain Western capitals have defended to the extent of protecting the leaders of these cowardly murderers, who live in exile in Brussels under the label of opposers of President Mobutu's regime. Claiming to be socialists, but nonetheless living in beautiful villas at Belgium's expense, these highwaymen (?live) in contradiction of their [word indistinct] positions and lead the lives of pashas in Brussels, thanks to the generosity of these same Belgian people whose [word indistince] brothers have been mercilessly butchered.

The rebels who are operating in Kolwezi today take their orders from Brussels. The invasion plan, which was hatched in Havana and set up for the rebels in Algiers, was in fact directed from the Belgian capital. But it is Belgians they have killed.

For many years now President Mobutu has been in contact with the Belgian authorities over their protection of the so-called Zairian political refugees living in Brussels. Each time Belgium has reacted against this, saying they must respect human rights; they must grant asylum and protection to these gangsters.

Today we see the result of their attitude: the useless and wanton massacre of four innocent people, three of whom are Belgian.

Come what may, the Republic of Zaire [word indistinct] the misfortune [word indistinct] of the Belgian and Italian citizens. It extends its (?most profound) condolences to the bereaved families [words indistinct] which international solidarity should play to help our country protect the foreign community, (?must) have confidence and to safeguard our unity and territorial integrity.

Embassies Request Airlift

PA171540Y Paris AFP in English 1344 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Lusaka, Zambia, May 17 (AFP)--Several foreign embassies here today asked Zambian authorities to agree to the airlift of some 2,500 foreigners stranded in Zaire's war-torn southern Shaba Province diplomatic sources said.

There was, however, some reluctance on the part of Zaire authorities to give permission for the operation, the source said.

Western diplomats in a statement here said that American, Belgian, French, British and other nationals would be evacuated from Shaba as soon as the Zambian Foreign Ministry had granted flying rights.

"We have already made evacuation plans with the Zambian Government and they are now on standby" one diplomat said.

There are about 100 Americans in Kolwezi and most of them are construction engineers and artisans with an American engineering firm--Morrison Knudsen--which is constructing the "Inga-Shaba" high-tension powerline.

A British source said there were about 174 Commonwealth citizens in the whole Shaba mining province and out of this total 24 Britons are resident and working in Kolwezi.

A spokesman at the Belgian Embassy said there are about 2,000 Belgian nationals in Kolwezi alone but would not give the figure for the whole Shaba Province although he admitted they were in the majority of the white population.

Belgian Ambassador's Remarks

LD180928 [Editorial Report LD/EA] In a report on President Mobutu's meetings with ambassadors yesterday, Kinshasa Domestic Service in French at 0500 GMT on 18 May broadcasts a recording of Belgian Ambassador Rittweger de Moor speaking to a radio reporter after the meeting. At one point the ambassador says:

"We are following the development of the present situation in Shaba with great interest. [Word indistinct] our support for the Zairian Government is total."

"Like you, I am very struck by the death of Belgian citizens at Kolwezi, but evidently in this very alarming situation, the Mobutu government is following [word indistinct] the fate of (?my) fellow citizens in Shaba."

Belgium's Tindemans' Statement

LD181026Y Brussels Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Summary] Here is a live statement from the prime minister at his office in Brussels:

[Tindemans] "In the next few minutes a coordination meeting will take place between the participants in a possible rescue operation. You know these countries--I mentioned them during the night. They are the United States, Germany [as heard], France, Belgium, and probably a few African countries.

"With this in view, Belgium has started the process of preparation of such an operation."

[Radio Correspondent] "Those are the main points of the statement. We do not know where the meeting will take place, nor at what level, but the prime minister said at the highest level."

AZAP: Kolwezi Airport Recaptured

LD171947Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 1815 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 May, AZAP--The 111th paratroop battalion (the battalion which the French trained at the request of the supreme commander of the Zairian Armed Forces, Army Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, after the "80 days war" and which was dropped on Kolwezi 48 hours ago) at 1830 tonight recaptured Kolwezi Airport, which had been in rebel hands since the start of the surprise attack against the town on the night of 11-12 May. [sentence as received]

Thus, the counterattack ordered by Gen Mobutu Sese Seko has yielded the expected results. The airport was recaptured after 3 hours of bitter fighting: The rebels could not resist the fire of the Zaire forces.

In only 9 months France--with which the Zaire republic had signed technical military agreements--managed to set up and train this paratroop battalion, the first of three battalions, or a total of 3,000 men, which will shortly be placed at the disposal of the Zairian Armed Forces. [sentence indistinct]

Kinshasa: Rebels Call for Reinforcements

LD180809Y Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0500 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Text] As we were saying at the beginning of this bulletin, the 111th paratroop battalion reoccupied Kolwezi Airport yesterday at 1830. Thus, the bell has tolled for the rebels, who now have their backs to the wall.

Messages in Spanish intercepted by the Zairian Armed Forces prove that the rebels are in fact led by Cuban mercenaries, of whom certain [words indistinct] given logistic support. In these messages, the rebels ask for reinforcements, and say that if they do not get them they will be forced to retreat. According to observers, fighting has become sporadic and the Zairian troops are well-organized in their actions against the rebels, who [words indistinct] confusion, lack of cohesion and discipline in their ranks.

With their organization, bravery and tactical dynamism, the Zairian troops, reinforced by (?large contingents of) paratroops, (?have succeeded) in reoccupying enemy positions concentrated in a part of the town of Kolwezi, and in retaking the airport which had been invaded by the (?enemy). The latter are now in distress. The Zairian Armed Forces have the situation well in hand everywhere, and [words indistinct] dispositions set up at Dilolo and Mutshatsha.

AZAP: Chaos in Kolwezi

LD172110Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 2030 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Kinshasa--There is complete chaos in Kolwezi. The former gendarmes are "engaged in pillage, looting shops and villas" and reflecting the true picture of what they have never ceased to be--that is, adventurers.

The wives and children of foreigners are being confined to their villas while the men have been directed to a hotel in the town.

Observers in Lumumbashi believe that "the situation is very worrying for the foreign nationals taken hostage and that the Zairian Armed Forces intend to free them from the claws of these paper tigers, cost what it may, during their counteroffensive."

What can one say, then, about statements of the Angolan (?embassy) in Belgium that (?their) "country is ready to receive refugees from Shaba?" Quite simply that, as in 1977, Angola is already opening the road to retreat "to the Katanga former gendarmes, for the moment of truth will arrive soon. Zaire will not be fooled and knows what kind of humanitarian reasons" are being invoked by Ambassador de Almeida, who previously specialized at one time in being a subservient propagandist for the MPLA. This is in fact no more than Soviet-Cuban incense, which will not succeed in hoodwinking Zaire.

CNLP Spokesman Denies Airport Recapture

LD181033Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Text] The Congolese National Liberation Front denies that the Zaire forces have recaptured Kolwezi airport, held by the rebels since Monday. The Kinshasa press agency reported that the paratroopers dropped on the town on Tuesday had recaptured this airport.

The Congolese liberation front spokesman also stated that the rebels had captured seven French soldiers, who will be treated--he added--as prisoners of war. They could be the military advisers who carried out vehicle maintenance work in Kolwezi of whom there had been no news.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

LISBON PAPER REPORTS CUBAN, ANGOLAN TROOPS IN SAO TOME

PA172357Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2342 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Lisbon, 17 May (AFP)--Angolan and Cuban troops have arrived in Sao Tome and Principe to help President Manuel Pinto Da Costa crush an "imperialist" plot, the ultra leftist weekly VOZ DO POVO reported here today.

The newspaper added that the plot is supported by the "neocolonialist regime" of Gabon, and that Angolan and Cuban troops have unloaded large quantities of light and heavy weapons.

VOZ DO POVO noted that on 14 February President Pinto Da Costa alerted the UN Security Council regarding a "plot by imperialism and its lackeys" against his country's people. He added that Sao Tome and Principe only has an army of some 100 men and does not have a navy or air force and is not able to oppose an aggression by itself.

According to the weekly, the plot is directed from Libreville by Carlos Graca, a former Sao Tome minister who leads a Sao Tome and Principe liberation movement.

SENEGAL

PRESIDENT SENGHOR COMMENTS ON AGGRESSION IN AFRICA

LD172218Y Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] Africa is currently going through one of the most serious trials in its history, in the form of outside aggression, stated the Senegalese president, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor, on his arrival in Paris; President Senghor, who is paying a 3-day official visit to France, had talks this afternoon on this problem with President Giscard d'Estaing.

ANGOLA

PAULO JORGE LEAVES FOR NONALINED MEETING IN CUBA

LD171250 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Comrade Paulo Jorge, minister for foreign affairs, left for Cuba early this morning. In Havana the Angolan minister will take part in the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the nonalined countries.

JORGE DISCUSSES FOREIGN POLICY, RELATIONS

FL131806Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge has declared that one of his country's principal foreign policy task is to confront the imperialist offensive plans in Africa. Paulo Jorge asserted that Angola will faithfully fulfill the role it should play in the struggle to assure respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity and self-determination rights of nations.

The Angolan foreign minister expressed his country's willingness to give its support for strengthening peace, disarmament and detente. He also hailed the assistance which Cuba is giving Angola during this phase of national reconstruction. Cuban specialists, he said, are successfully contributing to the development of education, agriculture and construction. We are satisfied, Paulo Jorge asserted, with the cooperation we maintain with the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries.

DEFENSE MINISTER CARREIRA DENIES AZAP CHARGES

LD171800Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1752 GMT 17 May 78 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Luanda, May 17 (ANGOP)--Angolan Defense Minister Major Iko Carreira denied in an official communique the allegations of the Zaire news agency AZAP according to which the town of Kolwezi has been attacked by "armed rebels in civilian clothes coming from Angola via Zambia."

The People's Republic of Angola has absolutely nothing to do with whatever movements Zairian elements in armed opposition to the Kinshasa regime may have made, the communique said.

The communique stressed that the confrontations had taken place "with the complicity of the autochthonous population of Lunda" spread in Zaire, Angola and Zambia.

The minister explained that the Angolan population living in the eastern part of the country "continues peacefully to carry out its duties in the national reconstruction," adding that this same population, however, has never stopped extending "fraternal aid" to the thousands of Zairian refugees who have found asylum in Angola.

ANGOP WARNS OF U.S.-FRENCH-BELGIAN INVASION OF ZAIRE

TA171758Y Paris AFP in English 1756 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Luanda, May 17 (AFP)--The official Angolan news agency (ANGOP) warned that a joint U.S.-Franco-Belgian paratroop invasion of Zaire's Shaba province was imminent.

Quoting diplomatic sources in Brussels, the agency said the operation was being planned "under the pretext of evacuating European residents of Shaba," whose main mining town of Kolwezi has been seized by rebels.

The agency repeated a government denial that Angola had anything to do with the Shaba fighting and quoted a statement by Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet today that there were no Cubans in the Shaba area or on Angola's frontier with Zaire.

ANSA: ANGOLA NOT INTERESTED IN LOME CONVENTION, EEC

AU132001Y Rome ANSA in English 1950 GMT 13 May 78 AU

[Text] Paris, May 13 (ANSA)--The secretary general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry for Sao Tome and Principe, Rafael Branco, told ANSA today that Angola was not interested in belonging to the Lome Convention that links African nations with the European Economic Community.

Foreign ministers from 22 countries are in Paris to lay the groundwork for the Fourth French-African Summit Conference, which France hopes will tighten Africa's ties with Europe and approve French military intervention in Africa. The summit will be held here May 22-23 under the chairmanship of French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

But Branco claimed that the Luanda government had heard pessimistic reactions from African states that had signed the economic and financial accords with the EEC. In fact, the Lome Convention does not greatly help a nation like Angola that exports products in great demand, like coffee and diamonds. As a result, Angola would apparently prefer to negotiate separately with the community nine.

Other former Portuguese possessions on the Atlantic side of Africa do not feel this way. Sao Tome and Principe, Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands have all asked to join the convention.

ITALIAN PAPER INTERVIEWS PAULO JORGE

LD141655Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 14 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] To face the imperialist offensive in Africa is one of the main features of the PRA's foreign policy, Comrade Paulo Jorge, our country's foreign minister, said in an interview with the Italian newspaper AVANTI.

The Angolan leader said that Angola is called upon to play an important part in the total liberation of the continent and in bringing to realization the principles of self-determination and independence for all peoples. This is why we are giving every possible support to countries which are still victims of colonial oppression and equally wish to contribute to strengthening peace, disarmament and detente.

Comrade Paulo Jorge said that Cuba is helping our country at Angola's request. At first, this help had a military character in order to enable us to face foreign aggression. But many people forget, the minister stressed, that Cuban assistance to Angola is primarily peaceful. Cuban experts are effectively helping us to improve the system of education, agriculture and construction. The PRA is practicing a policy of gradual nationalization of firms, especially those abandoned by the colonialists, Comrade Paulo Jorge said.

The lack of cadres was seriously (?hindering) this process. To organize the working of state firms, we try to cooperate with many countries, and this explains the reason why we have direct relations with socialist countries. We are very satisfied with our cooperation with the USSR and Cuba, the minister for foreign affairs, Comrade Paulo Jorge, stressed.

PATRIOTIC FRONT'S NKOMO ARRIVES IN LUANDA

LD141730Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, arrived in Luanda this morning by air for routine talks with our leaders. He was met on arrival at Belas airport by Comrade Pascual Luvualu, candidate member of the MPLA Central Committee Politburo, and by Commandant Alexandre Rodrigues, active member of the Central Committee of our revolutionary vanguard.

Speaking to newsmen, Nkomo stressed that the latest aggression by the South African racists against Angola is part of an imperialist conspiracy with a view to installing puppet governments not only in Namibia, but also in Zimbabwe. At the same time, they are trying to destabilize the governments of the frontline countries--namely Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana.

Joshua Nkomo later accused imperialist allies of South Africa, namely the Western powers, of being more and more interested in the neocolonization of the peoples of southern Africa in order to exploit their natural resources.

Nkomo stressed the need to intensify the guerrilla war as an answer to the terrorist attacks by the racist regimes. He also recalled that in order to confront the imperialist enemy, unity is fundamental not only among African peoples but also between them and the socialist countries and progressive forces in the Western countries.

COMORO ISLANDS

NEW PRIME MINISTER ABDALLAH M'HAMED TAKES POWER

TA171524Y Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Moroni, May 17 (AFP)--The Comoro Island's ruling directorate has given full powers to Abdallah Mohamed who was named prime minister and head of the government after last Saturday's coup d'etat, Radio Moroni reported today.

Reporting decree No 1 of the Politico-Military Directorate that overthrew former head of state Ali Soilih, the radio said the measure was aimed at restoring democratic institutions in the Indian Ocean Archipelago and normal functioning of public services.

The new regime has reduced the numbers of security forces guarding strategic points in the capital, while the two other islands in the group, Moheli and Anjouan, rallied to the new regime on Sunday and Monday respectively.

The directorate has said it will apply policies of "liberal socialism," and there were unconfirmed reports here that former head of state Ahmed Abdallah, in exile in France after being overthrown by Mr Soilih in 1975, would return home.

Other reports said that the regime was thinking of establishing a federal system with the fourth island of the group, Mayotte, which voted in a referendum to remain part of France.

It was also announced here earlier this week that Said Attoumani, at one time described as the leader of the coup, is not a member of the directorate. Mr Attoumani was a minister in the Soilih regime.

Abdallah Mohamed was minister of state responsible for internal affairs (education and health) in the old regime.

Cabinet Officials Appointed

FA171856Y Paris AFP in French 1719 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Moroni, 17 May (AFP)--In a decree published in Moroni today, the following officials were appointed to the Government of Comoros:

Mr Abdallah Mohamed, prime minister, chief of government in charge of social affairs, justice and the departments under the former Planning Center (economy, commerce and finance);

Mr Abbass Djoussouf, minister of state in charge of national defense, interior, transportation and telecommunications.

The decree states that this small cabinet will be expanded later.

Curfew Hours Shortened

PA171833Y Paris AFP in French 1720 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Moroni, 17 May (AFP)--The curfew has been reduced in Moroni. Beginning Wednesday evening, it will extend from 2300, instead of 2000, to 0600 in the morning, it was officially learned in Moroni.

MOZAMBIQUE

DECREE ORDERS DISSOLUTION OF COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS

LD171640Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] A decree of the Council of Ministers published in the BOLETIM DA REPUBLICA [government gazette] orders the dissolution of the following Maputo commercial associations: the Mozambique Association Agricultural and Industrial Board, the Mozambique Sisal Producers, Mozambique Owners and the Chamber of Commerce.

The decree says that all property or rights belonging to the dissolved associations revert to the state and are to be handed over to the Ministry of State for the presidency. A liquidation commission has also been appointed for the associations concerned, and the interests of the workers there will be safeguarded in accordance with their skills and without prejudice to any rights they may have at present.

The preamble to the decree, which taken immediate effect, points out that these associations united the bosses and contractors in defense of their interests. With the changes already made in the country's economic and social structure, such associations either no longer have any raison d'etre, as is the case with the owners association, or are not in keeping with the new situation, as is the case with the contractors associations.

MAPUTO REPORTS PATRIOTIC FRONT OPERATIONS JAN-APR

LD171910Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The armed forces of the Patriotic Front have issued a war communique on all operations carried out between January and the beginning of April this year. The communique states that during these 3 months 1,056 soldiers of the Rhodesian regime were killed and several hundreds wounded. During this period, the nationalist guerrillas carried out 125 large-scale attacks, 91 ambushes, 62 sabotage operations and freed several thousand people from various concentration camps; (?10) aircraft were shot down.

RHODESIA

MUZOREWA PREPARED TO FIGHT FOR INTERNAL SETTLEMENT

LD171330Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 17 May 78 LD/CA

[Text] The leader of the United African National Council [UANC] Bishop Muzorewa, says he will fight terrorists who try to destroy the Salisbury agreement. Speaking to AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, Bishop Muzorewa said if the war continues after a popularly elected government has come to power, the people of Rhodesia will be prepared to fight to defend themselves and their democracy. He added that he was certain the Salisbury agreement will gain world recognition and that sanctions will be lifted.

The bishop said that contact has been made with terrorists in an effort to implement the cease-fire. He said the terrorists are divided between those who agreed with the settlement and those who feel it is a trap to eliminate them.

Questioned on the dismissal of the former joint minister of justice and of law and order, Mr Hove, Bishop Muzorewa said the UANC still stood by Mr Hove's call for rapid black advancement and said the interim government is not doing enough to end racial discrimination.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL STATEMENT ON STRUCTURE OF NEW GOVERNMENT

LD171336Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 16 May 78 LD/CA

[Text] A new black-ruled Rhodesia will be led by a prime minister rather than an executive president like most black African states, according to a statement issued by the Executive Council this evening. The statement says that the Executive Council has accepted a recommendation that the country's new majority rule constitution should provide for a titular head of state rather than an executive one. The statement said that the chief executive will be the prime minister directly responsible to parliament and that the president should be chosen by an electoral college comprising all members of the parliament rather than the governing party.

The statement adds that the Executive Council has decided to accept the recommendation by the ministerial council that the country's majority rule legislative assembly should have a second chamber, the senate. The provision for a senate should be entrenched in the constitution, its composition and powers as yet to be determined.

SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG: WEST MUST HELP ZAIRE REPEL INVADERS

LD171522Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Carter of the United States has issued a statement which could make enormous sense to black African states but which frequently comes up against practical situations which make its implementation extremely difficult, if not impossible.

The American president has declared that Africa would do far better if it accepted and utilized the type of aid offered to it by the United States than if it continued accepting vast quantities of communist aid, consisting mainly of weapons.

The truth of this cannot be disputed. The fact of the matter is that when overall aid to Africa is considered and when an effort is made to distinguish between communist and Western aid, the differences are starkly clear. The West provides the type of assistance which is aimed at enabling black countries to help themselves and develop economically. The communist countries, on the other hand, provide vast quantities of weaponry designed to sow discord and chaos, and they do not confine their activities against the white-ruled south. As in Zaire today, as in Angola, as in Somalia and Ethiopia and many other countries, the Russians have been fomenting and encouraging a black against black struggle with the express aim of getting their pawns into power.

The United States believes it is in the hands of Africa to stop this Russian imperialism, what President Kaunda of Zambia once called: this tiger with her marauding Cuban cubs. This is true. However, a stage can be reached, as in Angola, where the nation is under the heel of Russia and Cuba and is left with no freedom of movement. In other words, the choice has been taken away from the people of Angola. This is the danger of what's happening in Zaire today. Again Russia is behind an attack by rebels led or assisted by Cuban troops, and the intention is to install a puppet government with a puppet head, holding power at the pleasure of Russia and Cuba.

It is this short-term threat which is the one which must be warded off today, and for this reason the West and moderate peace-loving African countries must respond to the call by Zaire for assistance to repel the invaders. Once these short-term threats have been eliminated, the long-term goals of development and progress can be implemented.

ROELOF BOTHA MEETS WESTERN OFFICIALS IN CAPE TOWN

LD171536Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 17 May 78 LD

[Text] The South African foreign affairs minister, Mr Roelof Botha, had talks with the representatives of the five Western nations which form the contact group on South-West Africa in Cape Town this morning. The talks lasted for about 1 and 1/2 hours and both Mr Botha and the British ambassador in South Africa, Sir David Scott, said afterwards that the meeting had been called to take stock of the present situation in the territory. Mr Botha declined to disclose the contents of the talks but said further meetings on South-West Africa would be held.

The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of Britain, Canada, France, and West Germany while the temporary charge 'affaires of the United States represented his country.

ZAMBIA

ZAMBIA REPORTEDLY ALLOWS USE OF LUSAKA FOR EVACUATION

LD181223Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1145 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Text] Zambia has apparently agreed to allow the use of Lusaka as a staging point in any evacuation. The country's president, Dr. Kaunda, is in Washington and discussed the fighting in Zaire during a meeting at the White House with President Carter.

EXPLANATION OFFERED ON HOW REBELS LAUNCHED ATTACK ON ZAIRE

LD171336Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0525 GMT 17 May 78 LD/CA

[From the press review: Zambia DAILY MAIL on Zaire]

[Excerpts] President Kaunda has expressed concern over the fighting now taking place between rebel troops and government forces in Zaire. The president has described the fighting as sad and most unfortunate.

As for Zambia, the civil war is most agonizing in that we are being dragged into something over which we know nothing about and over a people we have no (?concern). This is more so when it is reported that the rebels launched their attack on Shaba province from Zambia. Anyone who is acquainted with our problems knows that if ever there was any time when the relations between Zaire and Zambia have been at their warmest it has been the past 6 months, which has seen meetings between leaders of the two countries, bringing the people of the two countries together. It is therefore inconceivable that we can harbor anyone we know is an enemy of the government and people of Zaire, whom we are proud to call friends.

What is also common knowledge is that Zambia has been concentrating all her forces on the border with Rhodesia, because Rhodesia is the common enemy of both Zambia and Zaire. Everyone also knows that the border with Zaire is so vast that even if we had the manpower to seal it, it would not succeed. It must be because of that the rebels must have chosen Zambia from where to launch their attack on Shaba province, knowing they would not be detected and barred by Zambian forces.

The people and government of Zaire know we have enough problems with the racist south as it is. We hope and pray that our brothers in Zaire will believe and understand us when we tell them that Zambia is as much grieved by the present invasion of Zaire by rebel forces as the rest of the African countries.

This war is bleeding the hearts of every African in that it destroys the unity not only of the people of Zaire, but the unity of the rest of Africa, concludes today's Zambia DAILY MAIL editorial comment.

NKOMO INTERVIEWED BY VOICE OF GDR, VOWS TO FIGHT ON

LD180232Y Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 2140 GMT 17 May

[Text] Joshua Nkomo, co-president of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe and president of the ZAPU liberation movement, is at present in the People's Republic of Angola on a visit.

Our correspondent, Christian Schneider, manager to get an interview with him in Luanda: [begin recording]

[Question] Joshua Nkomo, during your present consultations with the leadership of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola no doubt the latest aggression by South Africa against Angola played a role. What is your view on this?

[Answer] I think it proved one thing. I think that those who pretend that South Africa is ready to negotiate a so-called settlement of the Namibia problem with the five Western powers now see what the South Africans are really doing. They are utilizing the present period for their strategy of once more attacking the People's Republic of Angola on the pretext of carrying out so-called hot pursuit. They always say that the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] is fighting from Angola. The fact of the matter is that the presence of the South Africans in Namibia is illegal and that South Africa is using this illegal position to carry out a massive, Western war, a war whose aim is to topple the legal governments of the African front-line states. All in all, their aim is--when they speak of decolonization--to set up puppet governments in Zimbabwe and Namibia and thus to shore up South Africa.

[Question] Comrade President, what is the reply by the African liberation movement to the policy of terror and aggression of the racists and imperialists?

[Answer] The answer of course is clear. The answer is to greatly intensify the armed liberation struggle. This is the only answer. I do not see any other. Both in Namibia and Zimbabwe we tried to talk with those people mentioned previously and to negotiate with them. But it soon became clear that such talks are just a waste of time. For this reason, we are sticking to the struggle, not because we like war, mind you. When all is said and done, war is a destructive element. But in view of the realities in southern Africa, we have no other alternative but to fight for liberation. I think it is well-known by now that in the current world the Western countries are on the side of the racists and fascists. That is their own choice. On the other side, there exists cooperation and solidarity between the oppressed peoples fighting for their liberation and the socialist states. And now, when many of those formerly oppressed are free, and about nine-tenths of Africa has been liberated in the meantime, this progressive cooperation is directed toward the African countries, the Organization of African Unity, and the socialist countries. And in the past, we have seen that within the Western countries there are some progressive forces, and they have played a very important role in our struggle for national liberation and independence. We must bear this in mind.

[Question] In conclusion, Comrade President, can you briefly describe the present situation in Zimbabwe following Smith's so-called internal settlement?

[Answer] Well, the situation is really very grave when one knows what the racists are doing and what their agents such as Muzorewa, Sithole and others are doing. Perhaps they even believe that they are acting in the interests of the people. They do not, however, seem capable of grasping the fact that they are being misused as tools by those dangerous forces which would like to continue exploiting this part of the world, that is Zimbabwe. But the people, including the people of Zimbabwe, are aware of what is going on. The people of Zimbabwe have recognized the enemy. They've seen what the real aim of this maneuver by Smith and the other elements is. It means nothing more than the continuation of racism, fascism and exploitation in Zimbabwe. And it is our great duty to support the people's liberation struggle, which--as the racists themselves admit--has taken hold of almost the whole country.

Nearly all of our native country of Zimbabwe is defined by the racists as a so-called operational zone. That is, an area where war is being waged practically every day, 24 hours a day. This is the situation. And even the archracist Smith said 2 or 3 days ago that he does not see his own so-called internal settlement being effective without participation by our Patriotic Front. This is a clear reflection of the fact that our people of Zimbabwe reject the internal settlement and are answering it by stepping up the fight on all fronts. [end recording]

BRIEFS

GDR DELEGATION IN ETHIOPIA--A three-man GDR delegation led by the deputy minister of foreign trade, Comrade (Friedmann) [name indistinct], has arrived in Addis Ababa on a 3-day working visit to Ethiopia. The visit will strengthen the existing good economic relations between the two countries. [Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA]

CUBANS TO MOZAMBIQUE--Soviet aircraft have transported two companies of Cuban infantry of 150 men each, fully equipped, to Beira. Moverover, according to certain observers at Maputo, the Soviets are said to be building a new aeronaval base at Nacala. [Paris DEFENSE CONJONCTURE in French 2 May 78 p 5 WA]

RWANDA BEGINS VHF BROADCASTING--The Rwanda National Broadcasting Station today began VHF broadcasting. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Herman Elender, the FRG ambassador to Rwanda, and President Habyarimana. [Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 17 May 78 LD/EA]

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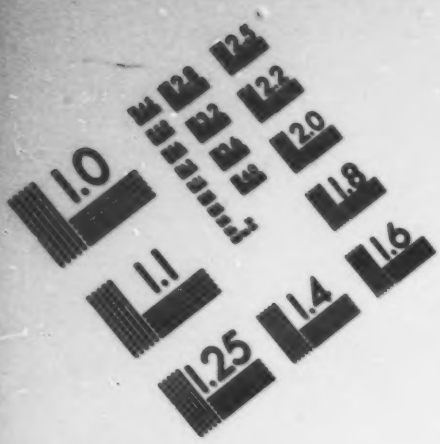

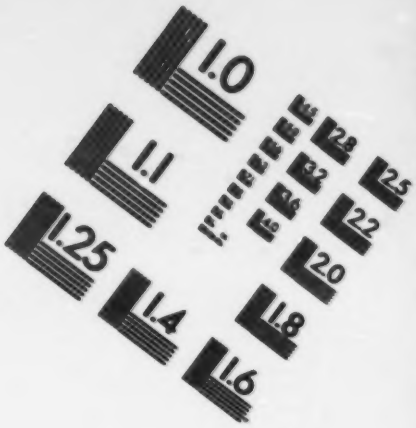

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